

combination with various references, of which Darden et al. (U.S. Patent 4,491,841) is specifically addressed herein. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

In combining Pollard with Darden et al., the Examiner has not identified any teaching, suggestion, or motivation in the prior art to combine the references in the manner suggested by the Examiner. In particular, the Examiner has not cited any teaching, suggestion, or motivation in the prior art to adapt a floppy disk drive as taught by Pollard to be portable using a slider of Darden et al. when the floppy disk medium is itself already portable. One wonders what can be gained by making a drive for portable media itself portable. More importantly, the answer to that question is so far absent from the record, aside from Applicant's own Specification.

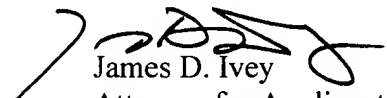
In particular, Applicant's Specification teaches in the Summary of the Invention that the benefits achieved according to the present invention are two-fold: first, portable media can be accessed without the tangle-prone wired adapters typically used and, second, the PC card device can be slid out of the drive bay to make room for a hard drive when access to portable media through the PC card device is not needed.

Without any teaching, suggestion, or motivation in the prior art to install a floppy drive in a hard drive slider as asserted by the Examiner in combining Pollard with Darden et al., Pollard and Darden et al. cannot be properly combined for obviousness analysis. Therefore, the Examiner has failed to make a prima facie case for unpatentability of any of Applicant's pending claims.

Conclusion

Claims 1, 3-11, and 13-18 are now in a condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. If the Examiner's next action is other than for allowance of Claims 1, 3-11, and 13-18, or if the Examiner has any questions or comments with respect to the above identified case, the Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned at (510) 336-1100.

Respectfully submitted,


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